

Benign Spinal Cord Tumours – survey analysis – 2009

The results of our first survey: Feb 2009 – sample of 32

Breakdown of sufferers

Male = 8m (25%)
 Female = 24f (75%)

Age at time of operation (27 have had operations)

21yrs – 30yrs = 4f 1m
 31yrs – 40yrs = 5f 3m
 41yrs – 50yrs = 9f 2m
 51yrs – 60yrs = 3f 0m

No operation at present: 4 (current age)

31yrs - 40yrs = 1f
 41yrs - 50yrs = 1f 1m
 61yrs - 70yrs = 1f

Awaiting immediate surgery – 1 31yrs – 40yrs = 1m

How much of the tumour was removed? (27 operations)

16 = 100% removed
2 = 90-99% removed
2 = 70-80% removed
4 = stated part removed
1 = awaiting result
1 = result: no removal
1 = was not told if all of the tumour was removed.

Further tumours: 2 of the above sample had second operations to remove new tumours.

Radiotherapy: only 5 had radiotherapy post operation.

Where people who have completed the survey live: **Scotland: 3**

(1 North, 2 South)

Northern Ireland: 2

Wales: 2

(1 North, 1 South Wales)

England: 24

London: 4

South West: 3 South East: 3

South: 1

Nth West: 1 North: 2

Midlands: 1 Nth Midlands: 1

East Mid: 1 South Mid: 1

Midlands: 1

East Anglia: 2

West: 3

Other: Malaysia: 1

Types of tumours

16 = Ependymomas*, **2 = Shwannomas**,

3 = Astrocytomas* **2 = Meningiomas**,

1 = Mesenchymal Chondrosarcoma

1 = Paraganglioma **1 = Hemangioblastoma**

1 = GCT Osteoclastome

5 = not known or stated "intramedullary"

(*16 Ependymomas - this could be 17 as one of the recorded Astrocytomas may be an Ependymoma as medical opinion was divided)

The areas of where the benign tumours were located

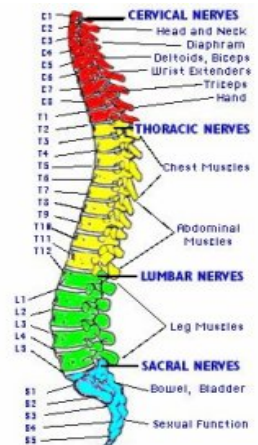
12 in the **Cervical** section

5 from **Cervical** to **Thoracic** sections

6 in the **Thoracic** section

4 from **Thoracic** to **Lumbar** sections

5 in the **Lumbar** section (**1** also affected **Sacral** nerves)



Symptoms/Medication/Comments

We have decided to attach our analysis (1a) as a second document which runs to several pages to show the variety of medication taken, symptoms against types of tumours and the general comments of those who have completed this survey. We have not included the personal details to protect individual privacy.

Key points:

The **symptoms** listed for the whole sample were similar with no particular symptom attributed to a particular tumour or section of the spine.

Medication: Amitriptyline (9) and **Gaberpentine (6)** topped the list of medication taken.

CYSTS: There are 2-3 returns not included in this analysis that were cysts not tumours and although we recognise the symptoms and effects are similar we have concentrated this analysis on benign tumours.